"To a Victorious Conclusion!"

The Prime Minister's Appeal to the Nation

Speeches delivered at the Guildhall, London, on September 4th, 1914, by

MR. ASQUITH,
MR. BONAR LAW,
MR. BALFOUR and
MR. CHURCHILL.

1914.

Parliamentary Recruiting Committee,
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THE PRIME MINISTER'S APPEAL TO THE NATION.

On September 4th, in the historic Guildhall of the City of London, opened the great campaign which has as its object the stimulating of recruiting for the war. Mr. Asquith and Mr. Bonar Law—the Leader of the House of Commons and the Unionist Leader of the Opposition in that House—were the chief speakers, whilst short speeches were also made by Mr. Balfoar and Mr. Churchill. The platform was thoroughly representative, not merely of the first City of the Empire, bat of the Empire itself. The Lord Mayor was supported on the right by Mr. Asquith, Mr. Balfour, the Governor of the Bank of England, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, and on the left by Mr. Bonar Law and the dignitaries of the City of London. Many Members of the Cabinet and Metropolitan Members of Parliament were also present, as well as representatives of the London County Council, the Port Authority, the Water Board, the Thames Conservancy Board, the Stock Exchange, Lloyd's, the Livery Companies, the Baltic Exchange, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Shipping and Corn Exchanges. The High Commissioners for Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, and the Agent General for Victoria were also present. The Lord Mayor was in the chair, and in a short speech declared that every citizen must be prepared to come forward and do what he could in this hour of the nation's peril.

MR. ASQUITH'S SPEECH.

My Lord Mayor and citizens of London,—It is three and a-half years since I last had the honour of addressing in this hall a gathering of the citizens. We were then meeting under the presidency, my Lord Mayor, of one of your predecessors—men of all creeds and parties—to celebrate and approve the joint declaration of the two great English-speaking States that for the future any differences between them should be settled, if not by agreement, at least by judicial inquiry and arbitration, and never in any circumstances by war. (*Cheers.*) Those of us who hailed that great eirenicon between the United States and ourselves as a landmark on the road of progress were not sanguine enough to think or even to hope that the era of war was drawing to a close—still less were we prepared to anticipate the terrible spectacle which now confronts us—a contest which for the number and importance of the Powers engaged, the scale of their armaments and armies, the width of the theatre of conflict, the outpouring of blood and the loss of life, the incalculable toll of suffering levied upon non-combatants, the material and moral loss accumulating day by day to the higher interests of civilized mankind—a contest which in every one of these aspects is without precedent in the annals of the world. We were very confident three years ago in the rightness of our position when we welcomed the new securities for peace. (*Hear, hear.*) We are equally confident in it to-day, when reluctantly and against our will, but with clear judgment and a clean conscience—(*Cheers*)—we find ourselves involved with the whole strength of this Empire in this bloody arbitrament between might and right. (*Cheers.*)

If we had been "False to our Word and Faithless to our Friends."

The issue has passed out of the domain of argument into another field. But let me ask you, and through you the world outside, what would have been our condition as a nation to-day if, through timidity or through a perverted calculation of self-interest, or through a paralysis of the sense of honour and duty—(*Cheers*)—we had been base enough to be false to our word and faithless to our friends? (*Cheers.*) Our eyes would have been turned at this moment with those of the whole civilized world to Belgium—a small State which has lived for more than 70 years under a several and collective guarantee, to which we, in common with Prussia and Austria, were parties—and we

should have seen, at the instance and by the action of two of those guaranteeing Powers, her neutrality violated, her independence strangled, her territory made use of as affording the easiest and most convenient road to a war of unprovoked aggression against France. (*Hear, hear.*) We, the British people, should at this moment have been standing by with folded arms and with such countenance as we could command, while this small and unprotected State, in defence of her vital liberties, made a heroic stand against overweening and overwhelming force. We should have been admiring, as detached spectators, the siege of Liège, the steady and manful resistance of a small Army, the occupation of Brussels with all its splendid traditions and memories, the gradual forcing back of the patriotic defenders of their fatherland to the ramparts of Antwerp, countless outrages suffered by them, and buccaneering levies exacted from the unoffending civil population, and finally the greatest crime committed against civilization and culture since the Thirty Years' War—the sack of Louvain—(*Cries of* "Shame")—with its buildings, its pictures, its unique library, its unrivalled associations, a shameless holocaust of irreparable treasures lit up by blind barbarian vengeance. (*Hear, hear.*) What account could we, the Government and the people of this country, have been able to render to the tribunal of our national conscience and sense of honour, if, in defiance of our plighted and solemn obligations we had endured and had not done our best to prevent, yes, and to avenge, these intolerable wrongs? (*Cheers.*)

For my part, I say that sooner than be a silent witness—which means in effect a willing accomplice—of this tragic triumph of force over law and of brutality over freedom, I would see this country of ours blotted out of the pages of history. (*Prolonged cheers.*)

A Spiritual Conflict.

That is only a phase, a lurid and illuminating phase, in the contest into which we have been called by the mandate of duty and of honour to bear our part. The cynical violation of the neutrality of Belgium was after all not the whole but a step, the first step, in a deliberate policy of which, if not the immediate, the ultimate and not far distant aim was to crush the independence and the autonomy of the free States of Europe. First Belgium, then Holland and Switzerland—countries, like our own, imbued and sustained with the spirit of liberty—were one after the other to be bent to the yoke, and these ambitions were fed and fostered by a body of new doctrine and new philosophy preached by professors and learned men. The free and full self-development which to these

small States, to ourselves, to our great and growing Dominions over the seas, to our kinsmen across the Atlantic, is the well-spring and life-breath of national existence; that free self-development is the one capital offence in the code of those who have made force their supreme divinity, and upon its altars are prepared to sacrifice both the gathered fruits and potential germs of the unfettered human spirit.

I use this language advisedly. This is not merely a material, it is also a spiritual conflict. (*Hear, hear.*) Upon its issue everything that contains the promise of hope that leads to emancipation and fuller liberty for the millions who make up the masses of mankind will be found sooner or later to depend. (*Cheers.*)

Sir E. Grey's Labours for Peace.

Let me now turn for a moment to the actual situation in Europe. How do we stand? For the last 10 years, by what I believe to be happy and well-considered diplomatic arrangements, we have established friendly and increasingly intimate relations with two Powers—France and Russia—with whom in days gone by we have had in various parts of the world occasion for constant friction, and now and again for possible conflict. These new and better relations, based in the first instance upon business principles of give and take, matured into a settled temper of confidence and good will. They were never in any sense or at any time, as I have frequently said in this hall, directed against other Powers. (*Cheers.*) No man in the history of the world has ever laboured more strenuously or more successfully than my right hon. friend Sir Edward Grey—(*Cheers*)—for that which is the supreme interest of the modern world—a general and abiding peace. It is, I venture to think, a very superficial criticism which suggests that under his guidance the policy of this country has ignored, still less that it has counteracted and hampered, the Concert of Europe. (*Hear, hear.*) It is little more than a year ago that, under his presidency, in the stress and strain of the Balkan crisis, the Ambassadors of all the Great Powers met here day after day and week after week curtailing the area of possible differences, reconciling warring ambitions and aims, and preserving against almost incalculable odds the general harmony; and it was in the same spirit and with the same purpose, when, a few weeks ago, Austria delivered her ultimatum to Servia, that the Foreign Secretary, for it was he, put forward a proposal for a mediating Conference between the four Powers who were not directly concerned—Germany, France, Italy, and ourselves. If that proposal had been accepted, the actual controversy would have been settled with honour to everybody, and the whole of this terrible welter would have been avoided. (*Hear, hear.*)

"The Foundation and Origin of this World-wide Catastrophe."

And with whom does the responsibility rest for its refusal and for all the illimitable sufferings which now confront the world? One Power and one Power only, and that Power is Germany. (*Cheers and hisses.*) There is the foundation and origin of this world-wide catastrophe. We persevered to the end. No one who has not been confronted, as we were, with the responsibility which, unless you have been face to face with it, you cannot possibly measure—the responsibility of determining the issues of peace and war—no one who has not been in that position can realize the strength, the energy, the persistence with which we laboured for peace. We persevered by every expedient that diplomacy can suggest, straining almost to the breaking point our most cherished friendships and obligations, even to the last moment making effort upon effort and indulging hope against hope. Then, and only then, when we were at last compelled to realize that the choice lay between honour and dishonour, between treachery and good faith, and that we had at last reached the dividing line which makes or mars a nation worthy of the name, it was then, and then only, that we declared for war. (*Cheers.*) Is there any one in this hall, or in this United Kingdom, or in the vast Empire of which we here stand in the capital and centre, who blames us or repents our decision? (*Shouts of* "No.") If not, as I believe there is not, we must steel ourselves to the task, and, in the spirit which animated our forefathers in their struggle against the domination of Napoleon, we must and we shall persevere to the end. (*Cheers.*)

Great Britain's Resources.

It would be a criminal mistake to under-estimate either the magnitude or fighting quality or the staying power of the forces which are arrayed against us; but it would be equally foolish and equally indefensible to belittle our own resources, whether for resistance or attack. Belgium has shown us—by a memorable and glorious example (*Cheers*)—what can be done by a relatively small State when its citizens are animated and fired by the spirit of patriotism. In France and Russia we have as allies two of the greatest Powers in the world, engaged with us in a common cause, who do not mean to separate themselves from us any more than we mean to separate ourselves from them. (*Cheers.*) We have upon the seas the strongest and most magnificent Fleet the world has ever seen. (*Cheers.*) The Expeditionary Force which left our shores less than a month ago has never been surpassed—(*Cheers*)—as its glorious achievements in the field have already made clear (*Renewed cheers*), not only in material equipment, but in the physical and moral quality of its constituent parts. (*Cheers.*)

The British Navy.

As regards the Navy, I am assured by my right hon. friend, whom we are glad to see here—(*Mr. Churchill*) (*Cheers*)—that there is happily little more to be done. I do not flatter it when I say that its superiority is equally marked in every department and sphere of its activity. We rely upon it with the most absolute confidence, not only to guard our shores against the possibility of invasion, not only to seal up the gigantic battleships of the enemy in the inglorious seclusion of their own ports—(*Laughter and cheers*)—whence from time to time he furtively steals forth to sow the sea with the murderous snares which are more full of menace to neutral shipping than to the British Fleet—our Navy does all this, and while it is thirsting, I do not doubt, for that trial of strength in a fair and open fight, which is so far prudently denied it, it does a great deal more. It has hunted the German mercantile marine from the high seas. (*Cheers.*) It has kept open our own sources of food supplies and largely curtailed those of the enemy—(*Cheers*)—and when the few German cruisers which still infest the more distant ocean routes have been disposed of, as they will be very soon—(*Cheers*)—it will have achieved for British and neutral commerce, passing backwards and forwards from and to every part of our Empire, a security as complete as it has ever enjoyed in the days of unbroken peace. (*Cheers.*) Let us honour the memory of the gallant seamen who, in the pursuit of one or other of these varied and responsible duties, have already laid down their lives for their country. (*Hear, hear.*)

The Empire's Response to the Call to Arms.

In regard to the Army, there is call for a new, a continuous, and a determined and united effort, for as the war goes on we shall have not merely to replace the wastage caused by casualties, not merely to maintain our military power at its original level, but we must, if we are to play a worthy part, enlarge its scale, increase its numbers and multiply many times its effectiveness as a fighting instrument. The object of the appeal which I have made to you, my Lord Mayor, and the other chief magistrates of our capital cities, is to impress upon the people of the United Kingdom the imperious urgency of this supreme duty. (*Hear, hear.*) Our self-governing Dominions throughout the Empire, without any solicitation on our part, demonstrated with a spontaneousness and unanimity unparalleled in history their determination to affirm their brotherhood with us and to make our cause their own. Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, and Newfoundland, children of the Empire, assert, not as an obligation but as a privilege, their right and their willingness to contribute money and material, and, what is better than all, the strength and sinews, the fortunes and the lives of their best manhood. (*Cheers.*)

India—(*Cheers*)—with no less alacrity, has claimed her share in the common task. Every class and creed, British and native, princes and people, Hindus and Mahomedans, vie with one another in a noble and emulous rivalry. Two divisions of our magnificent Indian Army are already on their way. (*Cheers.*) We welcome with appreciation and affection their proffered aid, and in an Empire which knows no distinction of race or caste, where all alike, as subjects of the King-Emperor, are joint and equal custodians of our common interests and fortunes, we here hail with profound and heartfelt gratitude their association, side by side and shoulder to shoulder with our home and Dominion troops, under the flag which is the symbol to all of a unity that the world in arms cannot dissever or dissolve. (*Cheers.*)

What the Mother Country is Doing and What She Ought to Do.

With these inspiring appeals and examples from our fellow-subjects all over the world, what are we doing and what ought we to do here at home? Mobilisation was ordered on August 4. Immediately afterwards Lord Kitchener (*Cheers*) issued his call for 100,000 recruits for the Regular Army. It has been followed by a second call for another 100,000. The response up till to-day gives us between 250,000 and 300,000 men—(*Cries of "Bravo" and cheers*)—and I am glad to say that London has done its share. The total number of Londoners accepted is not less than 42,000. (*Cheers.*) I need hardly say that that appeal involves no disparagement or discouragement of the Territorial Force. The number of units in that force who have volunteered for foreign service is most satisfactory and grows every day. We look to them with confidence to increase their numbers, to perfect their organization and training, and to play efficiently the part which has always been assigned to them, both offensive and defensive, in the military system of the Empire. But to go back to the expansion of the Regular Army. We want more men (*Cheers*)—men of the best fighting quality, and if for the moment the number who offer and are accepted should prove to be in excess of those who can at once be adequately trained and equipped, do not let them doubt that prompt provision will be made for the incorporation of all willing and able men in the fighting forces of the King. (*Cheers.*) We want, first of all, men, and we shall endeavour to secure that men desiring to serve together shall, wherever possible, be allotted to the same regiment or corps. (*Cheers.*) The raising of battalions by counties and municipalities with this object will be in every way encouraged. But we want not less urgently a larger supply of ex-non-commissioned officers, the pick of the men who have

served their country in the past, and whom, therefore, in most cases we shall be asking to give up regular employment and to return to the work of the State which they alone are competent to do. The appeal we make is addressed quite as much to their employers as to the men themselves. (*Cheers.*) The men ought, surely, to be assured of reinstatement to their positions at the end of the war. And, finally, there are numbers of commissioned officers now in retirement who have had large experience in handling troops, who have served their country in the past. Let them come forward too, and show their willingness, if need be, to train bodies of men for whom for the moment no regular cadres or units can be found. (*Hear, hear.*)

"Let us go and do likewise."

Of the actual progress of the war I will say nothing except that in my judgment, in whatever direction we look, there is abundant ground for pride and comfort. (*Cheers.*) I say nothing more, because I think we should bear in mind, all of us, that we are at present watching the fluctuation of fortune only in the early stages of what is going to be a protracted struggle. We must learn to take long views and to cultivate above all other qualities those of patience, endurance, and steadfastness. Meanwhile, let us go, each of us, to do his or her appropriate part in the great common task. Never had a people, as you have most truly said, my Lord Mayor, more or richer sources of encouragement and inspiration. Let us realize, first of all, that we are fighting as a united Empire in a cause worthy of the highest traditions of our race. (*Cheers.*) Let us keep in mind the patient and indomitable seamen who never relax for a moment, night or day, their stern vigil on the lonely seas. (*Cheers.*) Let us keep in mind our gallant troops who, to-day, after a fortnight's continuous fighting under conditions which would try the mettle of the best army that ever took the field, maintain not only an undefeated, but an unbroken, front. (*Cheers.*)

And, finally, let us recall the memories of the great men and the great deeds of the past, commemorated, some of them, as you have reminded us, in the monuments which we see around us on these walls, not forgetting the dying message of the younger Pitt, his last public utterance made at the table of your predecessor, my Lord Mayor, in this very hall:—"England has saved herself by her exertions, and will, as I trust, save Europe by her example." (*Cheers.*) England in those days gave a noble answer to his appeal, and did not sheathe the sword until, after nearly 20 years of fighting, the freedom of Europe was secured. (*Cheers.*) Let us go and do likewise. (*Prolonged cheers.*)

MR. BONAR LAW'S SPEECH.

It would indeed be impossible for me to add anything to the force of the appeal which has just been addressed by the Prime Minister to our people, but I am glad to be here, as representing one of our great political parties, in order to show clearly that in this supreme struggle, in everything connected with it until it is brought to a triumphant close—(*Cheers*)—the head of our Government must speak, not as the leader of a party, but as the mouthpiece of a nation. (*Cheers.*) We are a peace-loving people—(*Cheers*)—but never, I believe, in our history has the whole nation been so convinced as it is to-day that the cause for which we are fighting is righteous and just. We strove for peace by all means to the last moment, but when, in spite of our efforts, war came, we could not stand aside. The honour and the interests of Great Britain—and, believe me, they go together—alike forbade it. It was inevitable that we must be drawn into this world-struggle, and the only question was whether we should enter it honourably, or be dragged into it with dishonour. (*Cheers.*)

"We know what we are fighting for."

This war is a great crime, one of the greatest in history, but it is a crime in which, as a nation, we have no share. (*Hear, hear.*) Now, as always for nearly a generation, the key of peace or war was in Berlin. The head of the German Government had but to whisper the word "peace" and there would have been no war. He did not speak that word: he has drawn the sword, and may the accursed system for which he stands perish by the sword. (*Loud cheers.*) War has come. We are fighting as truly as Belgium or France, where the tide of battle with all its horrors is rolling on, for our life. As Cromwell said of his Ironsides, we can say to-day with equal truth, "We know what we are fighting for, and we love what we know." We are fighting for our national existence, for everything which nations have always held most dear. But we are fighting for something more. We are fighting for the moral forces of humanity. (*Cheers.*) We are fighting for the respect for public law and for the right of public justice, which are the foundations of civilization. We are fighting, as the Prime Minister said, for right against might. (*Cheers.*) I do not attempt what Burke has declared to be impossible—to draw an indictment against a whole people; but this I say, that the German nation has allowed itself to be organized as a military machine which recognizes no law except the law of force, which knows no right except the right of the strongest. It is against that we are fighting to-day. (*Cheers.*)

"A Scrap of Paper."

The spirit in which this war was entered into was shown clearly in the words which were addressed to our Ambassador at Berlin by the German Chancellor. "You are going to war," he said, "for a scrap of paper." A scrap of paper, yes, but a scrap of paper with which was bound up a solemn obligation, and with that obligation the honour of a great nation. (*Cheers.*) A scrap of paper in which was involved also the right to independence and liberty, the right even to existence, of all the small nations of the world. It is for that scrap of paper that Belgian soldiers have fought and died, that the Belgian people, by what they have done and what they have endured, have won for themselves immortal fame. (*Cheers.*) It is for that scrap of paper and all that it means that we too have already watered with the blood of our sons the fair fields of France, and for it we shall conquer or perish. (*Cheers.*)

An Indelible Stain.

The words which I have quoted show not merely the spirit in which the war was entered into, but the spirit in which it is being conducted to-day. (*Hear, hear.*) When reports first reached us of German atrocities in Belgium, I hoped, for the sake of our common humanity, that they were untrue or at least exaggerated. We can entertain that hope no longer. The destruction of Louvain, to which the Prime Minister has referred, has proclaimed to the world in trumpet tones what German methods are. It has fixed upon German honour an indelible stain, and the explanations which it has been attempted to give of it have only made that stain the deeper. War at the best is terrible. It is not from the ordinary soldier, it is not from below that restraint can be expected. It must come, if it come at all, from above. But here outrages come not from below, but from above. They are not the result of accident, but of design. They are part of a principle—the principle by any means, at any expense to the lives of defenceless men or of helpless women and children, to spread terror in a country and facilitate German arms. This is, as the Prime Minister said, a moral and spiritual conflict, and believe me, in the long run, the moral and spiritual are stronger than the material forces. (*Cheers.*)

An Appeal not Made in Vain.

The object of this meeting, and of the speech to which we have just listened, is to appeal to the manhood of our country to rally once again around the old flag. That appeal will not be made, is

not being made, in vain. (*Cheers.*) Our people had only to realize, as at first they did not quite realize, what issues were at stake, to come forward with all the spirit of their fathers. That lesson is being driven home now by influences stronger far than any speeches. It has been taught by the heroic stedfastness of the Belgian people. It is being taught now by the knowledge that but for the sure shield of our Navy—a shield which, if we fail to conquer, cannot save us—our fate to-day would be the fate of Belgium. It is being taught above all by the accounts, meagre though they are, of what has been done by our soldiers on the fields of battle. (*Cheers.*)

"What can I Do to Help my Country?"

With that mistaken estimate of themselves and of others, which is one of the explanations of this war, the Germans before and after this outbreak have spoken of us as a decadent nation. Do they say that to-day? (*Cries of* "No.") Let the long-drawn-out fight which began at Mons give the answer. (*Cheers.*) There our soldiers, pitted against the choicest troops of the German Army, and outnumbered by nearly three to one, as I believe, were undefeated and unbroken. (*Cheers.*) And when the story of that fight comes to be written, it is my belief that it will form as glorious a page as is to be found in the whole annals of our history. (*Cheers.*) The men will come. (*Cheers.*) There is no doubt about that. Everywhere I find the same spirit; everyone asking, "What can I do to help my country?" Many of those whom I am addressing are, like the Prime Minister and myself, unable to take their places in the fighting line. It is not right, it is not fair, that we should make an appeal for sacrifice to the patriotism of those only who are able and willing to fight our battles. An equal sacrifice is demanded of those who remain behind, and, let us not as a Government merely, but as a nation, realize our obligation and let us make a vow, and keep it, that no dependant of any man who is fighting our battles shall go hungry while we have bread to eat. (*Cheers.*) Let us realize, also, as we have not always realized in the past, that our soldiers are the children of the State, and that they have the first claim upon the resources of our nation. (*Prolonged cheers.*)

MR. BALFOUR'S SPEECH.

This is not the occasion on which I think you should ask me to address you, for, although I am your Member, this meeting was called to hear the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Unionist Party in the House of Commons. In those magnificent speeches

which they have to-day delivered to you, and which will ring like a trumpet-call from one end to the other of our country—(*Cheers*)—they have not only put the case of this country as it should be put, but they have symbolized on this platform that unity of purpose which animates the whole Empire—a unity which will not be broken, a unity which will produce, and must produce, in the long run that irresistible pressure upon the course of the war which will carry into effect the aspirations to which they have given such magnificent utterance. (*Cheers.*) There was one sentence of the Prime Minister's which moved me, as I think it must have moved everybody who heard it. He told us that he would rather see this country blotted out from the page of history than that we should stand aside and not carry out our honourable obligations. (*Cheers.*) That was an appeal to our honour which must have touched everybody. (*Hear, hear.*) As Mr. Bonar Law told you, honour and interest cannot be divorced, and, believe me, if, which is incredible and unthinkable, we or our Allies were to shrink from the final issue before we had gained our end, then slowly, it may be, but with absolute certainty, you must look forward to the fact that we shall have fallen, and fallen for ever, from our high estate. (*Hear, hear.*) We shall be little more than subservient vassals of a State which knows indeed how to create power, but which appears utterly ignorant how to use it. I feel through every fibre of my being that at this great crisis of our history, not only is there every call upon the manhood of the nation, but we are all asked, whether old or young, rich or poor, to make sacrifices for the common cause. We are called to a task as great and noble, and as intimately connected with the progress, prosperity, and the morality of mankind, as any nation ever was in the whole long history of human effort. (*Prolonged cheers.*)

MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH.

You may rely with good confidence upon the strength and the efficiency of our naval defence. That defence will enable you to live and work and draw the means of life and power from the uttermost ends of the earth. It will give you the time, and it will give you the means, to create the powerful military force which this country must wield before the struggle is brought to its conclusion. Sure I am of this, that you have only to endure to conquer. You have only to persevere to save yourselves, and to save all those who rely upon you. You have only to go right on, and at the end of the road—be it short or long—victory and honour will be found. (*Prolonged cheers.*)

THE RESOLUTION.

The following resolution, proposed by the LORD MAYOR, was carried unanimously and with great enthusiasm :—

> **" That this meeting of the citizens of London, profoundly believing that we are fighting in a just cause, for the vindication of the rights of small States and the public law of Europe, pledges itself unswervingly to support the Prime Minister's appeal to the nation, and all measures necessary for the prosecution of the war to a victorious conclusion, whereby alone the lasting peace of Europe can be assured."**

A fitting climax to the enthusiasm of the meeting was the brisk recruiting which afterwards took place at the special recruiting station opened within the precincts of the building.

(B 3070) Wt. w. 5831—42 50½m 10/14 H & S

How to Enlist.

Go to the nearest Post Office. There you will get the address of the nearest Recruiting Depôt, where you can enrol yourself.

Who may Enlist.

All men between 19 and 35, all old soldiers up to 45.

Terms of Enlistment.

You may join for the War only if you do not want to serve for the full period as a regular soldier. Then you may return when the War is over to your ordinary employment.

Pay.

Ordinary Army Pay (minimum, 6s. 8d. a week, clear of all expenses). Food, Clothing and Lodging. Separation allowance for Wives and Children.

Pensions for the Wounded.

Men disabled on service will be entitled after discharge to benefits under the Insurance Act in addition to the Pension given by the War Office for partial or total disablement. This pension varies from 3s. 6d. to 24s. 6d. a week.

Pensions for Widows.

The Widows of those who die on active service will receive, subject to certain qualifications, Pensions at various rates from 5s. to 10s. a week, with 1s. 6d. or 2s. a week for each child.

Men are Wanted—Enlist Now.